

**2nd REPORT OF
THE MALAYSIAN REGISTRY
of
RENAL BIOPSY
2008**

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&

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ABOUT MALAYSIAN REGISTRY OF RENAL BIOPSY

Renal biopsy remains the main investigation in the diagnosis of renal diseases. In addition, it plays a major role in determining the management and prognosis of parenchymal renal disease. The collection of demographic, clinical and laboratory data at the time of biopsy and the set up of a database are useful tools for studying renal parenchymal diseases.

The development of a renal biopsy registry in each country promotes many advantages and these include comparison in incidence of renal diseases, identification of different policies and practices in renal biopsy in different areas, linkage with other registries such as dialysis or transplant registry and identification of rare renal diseases. Thus, the registry is a source of epidemiological data and would provide useful information in the planning of health care and in organizing prospective clinical studies.

The incidence of glomerular disease varies according to population, demographic characteristics, environmental factors, socio-economic status and the prevalence of infectious diseases. At present, there is limited information on the prevalence and incidence of glomerular disease, its potential disease burden and the temporal trend in Malaysia. Hence, the Malaysian Registry of Renal Biopsy (MRRB) was set up in 2005 to address this deficiency.

The MRRB collects information about patients who undergo renal biopsy in Malaysia. The MRRB is a new component of National Renal Registry (NRR), which has been operating the Malaysian Dialysis and Transplant Registry (MDTR) since 1993.

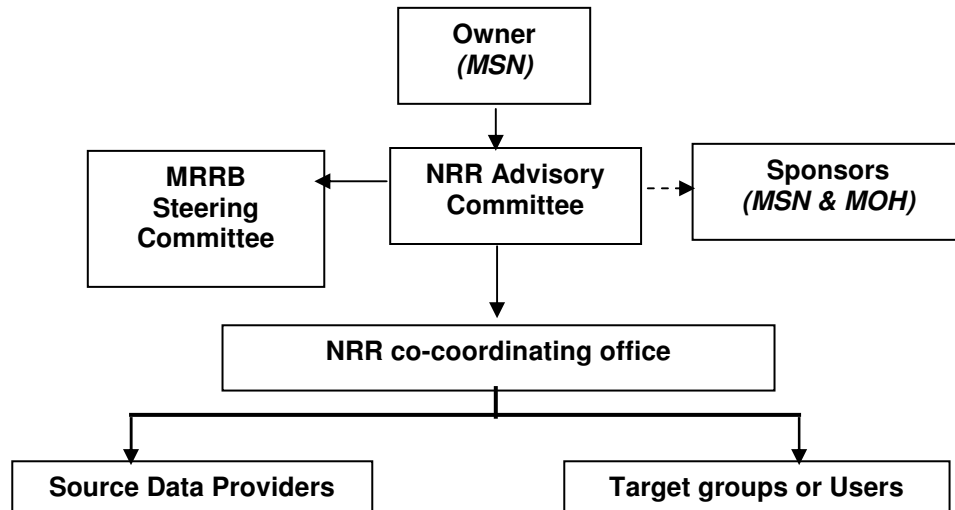
Objectives

The objectives of the MRRB registry are to:

1. Determine the disease burden attributable to glomerular disease (GD) by quantifying its incidence and prevalence, and its geographic and temporal trends in Malaysia.
2. Identify subgroups in the population at high risk of GD to whom preventive efforts should be targeted.
3. Identify potential causal and risk factors involved in GD.
4. Describe the clinical presentation and spectrum of GD.
5. Stimulate and facilitate basic, clinical and epidemiological research on GD.
6. Identify causes of allograft failure in our renal transplant population.
7. To audit the renal biopsy procedure, monitor both complications and quality of specimens in addition to identifying risk factors associated with complications.

Organization

The NRR organization is as follows:



Owner

The Malaysian Society of Nephrology (MSN) is the owner of this registry.

Sponsors

The MRRB is sponsored by the Malaysian Society of Nephrology (MSN) and the Ministry of Health, Malaysia.

NRR Advisory Committee

This is the committee established by the sponsors. The NRR Advisory Committee's role is to ensure that the MRRB stay focused on its objectives and to assure its continuing relevance and justification.

MRRB Steering Committee

The MRRB Working Committee supervises its operations.

National Renal Registry office

The NRR coordinating office is the designated coordinating center. It coordinates the data collection among the Source Data Providers (SDPs). It collaborates with Clinical Research Centre of Hospital Kuala Lumpur that provides epidemiological and statistical support for MRRB.

Source Data Providers (SDP)

These are centres that contribute the required data for MRRB. The SDP collects and enters data directly through the on-line web-base system. The pilot phase of the registry consists of SDPs from Ministry of Health.

Throughout this initial phase, we have refined and improved the database. In 2008, the registry is expanding to a national level to include participation from all nephrologists and renal physicians in Malaysia who perform renal biopsies. We hope the nephrology community will support us by submitting information, which is crucial to eventually improve the management of patients with Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD).

To participate in MRRB

Centres interested to participate in this registry please write in to NRR officially via post or email nrr@msn.org.my.

The following documents need to be completed and returned to facilitate participation.

- Centre Participation Self Reply Form
- Authorization Form
- Information Security Policy/User Agreement . One form per nominee as listed in the Authorization form. Users must have a personal mobile phone to received SMS authentication.

Upon receiving these documents, the centre shall be registered and each of the users of the MRRB shall be notified via their e-mail address.

Methodology

All patients from participating centres who undergo any kidney biopsy (native or graft) are to be enrolled into the registry.

On-line data submission is through MRRB web application or paper CRF. The data variables collected include demography, clinical presentation, and indication of biopsy, renal function, and laboratory data at presentation and at the time of biopsy, serological markers, virology status and histopathological result. In addition, an update on outcomes in terms of significant end-points such as end stage renal disease or death will be recorded annually.

DATA CONTRIBUTING CENTRES FOR THIS REPORT

Centre Name	Adult Nephrology	Paediatric Nephrology
96 Hospital Angkatan Tentera Lumut	√	
Fan Medical Renal Clinic	√	
Ipoh Specialist Hospital	√	
KPJ Ampang Puteri Specialist Hospital	√	
KPJ Selangor Specialist Hospital, Shah Alam	√	
Kuala Lumpur Hospital	√	√
Lam Wah Ee Hospital, Pulau Pinang	√	
Likas Hospital		√
Melaka Hospital	√	
Metro Specialist Hospital, Sungai Petani	√	
Normah Medical Specialist Centre, Kuching	√	
Pulau Pinang Hospital	√	√
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kota Kinabalu	√	
Raja Perempuan Zainab II Hospital, Kota Bharu	√	
Raja Permaisuri Bainun Hospital, Ipoh	√	
Sarawak General Hospital, Kuching	√	
Selayang Hospital	√	√
Serdang Hospital	√	
Sultan Ismail Hospital, Pandan		√
Sultanah Aminah Hospital, Johor Bharu	√	
Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital, Alor Star	√	
Sultanah Nur Zahirah Hospital, Kuala Terengganu	√	
Sunway Medical Centre	√	
Tengku Ampuan Afzan Hospital, Kuantan	√	√
Tengku Ampuan Rahimah Hospital, Kelang	√	
Tuanku Ja'afar Hospital, Seremban	√	√
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FOREWORD

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The second report of the Malaysian Registry of Renal Biopsy (MRRB) showed an increase in the number of centers reporting. This is gratifying especially as most of the new centers were from the Universities and the private sector. The first report was confined to centers from the Ministry of Health only. The addition of data from the new centers will hopefully give a more “national” representation of the pattern of glomerular diseases in the country. The ascertainment rate, however, has dropped in 2008 to 76%. Of the 1519 biopsies that were done, 1155 were reported. This is unfortunate as a large segment of useful information is missing. It is hoped that nephrologists will take some time off their busy schedule to report on the biopsies they did.

The pattern of primary and secondary glomerular diseases was similar to that seen in the first report. Any change in pattern in the short term is more likely to be the result of more centers reporting (eg more pediatric nephrology centers) or more biopsies being done than any real change in incidence of glomerular diseases. Facilities for doing renal biopsies are now available in all major hospitals in the country. However indications for biopsies may vary between practitioners and this to some extent affects the pattern observed. Thus the real “pattern” can only be seen after the registry has matured and achieve a high ascertainment rate and there is some consistency amongst practitioners on the indications for biopsy. Nephrotic syndrome remained the most common indication for doing renal biopsy in 2008 followed by asymptomatic urinary abnormalities.

Data from registries serve not only to indicate incidence/prevalence and clinical presentation of diseases but more importantly help guide clinical practice. Data from the Malaysian Dialysis and Transplant Registry (MDTR) have helped in the formulation of clinical practice guidelines on Renal Replacement Therapy in Malaysia along with results from clinical trials. It is hoped that with information accumulated in the MRRB, we could one day develop some practice guidelines on the management of glomerular disease. The registry will have to look at means of collecting more clinical data on outcome such as renal survival, complications of glomerular disease etc before we can embark on such a task.

This year (2010) the funding for all registries by the Ministry of Health has been drastically reduced putting the long-term viability of many registries in peril. The National Renal Registry is seriously looking at measures to reduce costs and also to look for additional sources of income. It will endeavour to maintain all existing registries under its purview.

Dr Zaki Morad
Chairman, National Renal Registry

CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1	OVERVIEW OF RENAL BIOPSY IN MALAYSIA	1
1.1	Introduction	2
1.2	Renal biopsies from the participating centres	2
1.2.1	Ascertainment rate of total biopsy performed	2
1.2.2	Type of renal biopsy performed	4
1.2.3	Number of renal biopsy done on each individual patient	5
1.2.4	Demographic distribution of renal biopsy (Native and Graft)	6
1.2.4.1	Age distribution	6
1.2.4.2	Gender distribution	8
1.2.4.3	Racial distribution	8
1.2.5	Renal biopsy report analysis	9
1.2.6	Histopathology specimen distribution to histopathology laboratories	10
1.3	Native kidney biopsy	13
1.3.1	Clinical Indications of renal biopsy	13
1.3.2	Histopathological diagnosis	13
1.3.3	Histopathology findings in common clinical presentation	16
1.3.3.1	Histopathological diagnosis in patients with nephrotic syndrome	16
1.3.3.2	Histopathological diagnosis in patients with urinary abnormalities	17
1.3.3.3	Histopathological diagnosis in patients with nephritic-nephrotic syndrome	18
1.3.3.4	Histopathological diagnosis in patients with nephritic syndrome	19
1.3.3.5	Primary GN according to various age group	20
CHAPTER 2	PRIMARY GLOMERULONEPHRITIS	21
2.1	Introduction	22
2.2	Minimal Change Disease	22
2.2.1	Introduction	22
2.2.2	Patient population and characteristics	23
2.2.3	Clinical presentation	24
2.2.3.1	Clinical presentation by age	25
2.2.3.2	Clinical presentation by gender	26
2.2.4	Renal function at presentation	27
2.3	Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis	28
2.3.1	Introduction	28
2.3.2	Patient population and characteristics	28
2.3.3	Clinical Presentation	29
2.3.3.1	Clinical presentation by age	30
2.3.3.2	Clinical presentation by gender	31
2.3.4	Renal function at presentation	32
2.3.4.1	Renal function at presentation by age	32
2.3.4.2	Renal function at presentation by gender	33
2.4	Idiopathic Membranous Nephropathy	33
2.4.1	Introduction	33
2.4.2	Patient population and characteristics	33
2.4.3	Clinical presentation	34
2.4.3.1	Clinical Presentation by age	35
2.4.3.2	Clinical presentation by gender	36

CONTENT *(con't)*

2.4.4	Renal function at presentation	36
2.4.4.1	Renal function at presentation by age	36
2.4.4.2	Renal function at presentation by gender	37
2.5	IgA Nephropathy (IgAN)	37
2.5.1	Introduction	37
2.5.2	Patient population and characteristics	37
2.5.3	Clinical presentation	38
2.5.3.1	Clinical presentation by age	39
2.5.3.2	Clinical presentation by gender	39
2.5.4	Renal function at presentation	40
2.5.4.1	Clinical Presentation by age	40
2.5.4.2	Clinical presentation by gender	40
CHAPTER 3	SECONDARY GLOMERULONEPHRITIS	41
3.1	Introduction	42
3.2	Lupus Nephritis	42
3.2.1	Introduction	
3.2.2	Patient population and characteristics	42
3.2.2.1	Age at time of biopsy	42
3.2.2.2	Gender distribution	43
3.2.2.3	Racial prevalence	43
3.2.3	Clinical presentation	43
3.2.3.1	Clinical Presentation by age	44
3.2.3.2	Clinical presentation by gender	45
3.2.3.3	Clinical Presentations by histopathology	46
3.2.4	Renal function at presentation	47
3.2.4.1	Renal function at presentation by age group	47
3.2.4.2	Renal function at presentation by gender	47
3.2.4.3	Renal function at presentation by histopathology	48
3.2.5	Histopathological diagnosis	48
3.2.5.1	Histopathological diagnosis by age	49
3.2.5.2	Histopathological diagnosis by gender	49
3.2.5.3	Histopathological diagnosis by clinical presentation	49
3.2.6	Extra-renal involvement	50
3.2.6.1	American Rheumatological Association (ARA) criteria in lupus nephritis	50
3.2.6.2	ARA criteria in lupus nephritis by age	50
3.2.6.3	ARA criteria in lupus nephritis by gender	50
3.2.6.4	ARA criteria in lupus nephritis by histopathological findings	50
3.2.6.5	Extra-renal involvement	51
3.2.7	Survival in lupus nephritis	52
3.2.7.1	Patient survival in lupus nephritis	52
3.2.7.2	Renal survival in lupus nephritis	52
CHAPTER 4	PAEDIATRIC RENAL BIOPSY	53
4.1	Introduction	54
4.2	Number of patients and renal biopsies	54
4.2.1	Total number of patients and native renal biopsies	54
4.2.2	Number of patients from various hospitals	54
4.2.3	Number of native renal biopsies	54
4.2.4	Number of renal biopsy done on each individual patient	54

CONTENT *(con't)*

4.3	Outcome of renal biopsies	55
4.3.1	Adequacy of renal biopsy for diagnosis	55
4.3.2	Number of glomeruli obtained at each biopsy	55
4.4	Patient characteristics	55
4.5	Clinical presentation	56
4.5.1	Clinical presentation at biopsy	56
4.5.2	Renal function	56
	4.5.2.1 Renal function at biopsy	56
	4.5.2.2 Renal impairment at biopsy	56
4.5.3	Hypertension at biopsy	56
4.6	Diagnosis of paediatric renal biopsies	57
4.7	Nephrotic syndrome	58
4.7.1	Renal histopathology diagnosis of children presenting with nephrotic syndrome	58
4.7.2	The histopathological profile in different steroid response categories	58
4.8	Renal histopathology diagnosis of children presenting with nephritic syndrome	59
4.9	Causes of acute renal failure	59
4.10	Paediatric focal segmental glomerulosclerosis and minimal change disease	60
4.10.1	Characteristics of paediatric focal segmental glomerulosclerosis and minimal change disease among children with steroid resistant nephrotic syndrome	60
4.10.2	Patient survival in focal segmental glomerulosclerosis and minimal change disease	61
4.10.3	Renal survival of patient with focal segmental glomerulosclerosis and minimal change disease	62
4.11	Paediatric lupus nephritis	63
4.11.1	Total number of patients and renal biopsies	63
4.11.2	Number of renal biopsy done on each individual patient with lupus	63
4.11.3	Patient characteristics of paediatric lupus nephritis	63
4.11.4	Extra renal manifestation of paediatric SLE	63
4.11.5	Classification of paediatric lupus nephritis	64
4.11.6	Patient survival in lupus nephritis	64
4.11.7	Renal survival of patient with lupus nephritis	64
4.12	Renal outcome	65
4.13	Biopsy failure and complications	65
4.13.1	Risk factors for biopsy failure	65
4.13.2	Complications	66
4.13.3	Risk factors for complication	67
	References	68

CONTENT *(con't)*

CHAPTER 5	RENAL ALLOGRAFT BIOPSY	69
5.1	Introduction	70
5.2	Number of renal allograft biopsy	70
5.2.1	Number of renal allograft biopsy by year	70
5.2.2	Number of renal allograft biopsy by year and site	70
5.2.3	Number of renal allograft biopsy by year and age group	72
5.3	Clinical presentation at biopsy	73
5.4	Timing of renal allograft biopsy	74
5.5	Renal allograft biopsy Procedure	75
5.5.1	Renal allograft Biopsy method	75
5.5.2	Number of passes	75
5.5.3	Number of glomeruli obtained on biopsy	76
5.5.4	Type of complications	76
5.6	Histological diagnosis	77
Appendix I	Data management	I
Appendix II	Analysis criteria and statistical methodology	V
Appendix III	Abbreviations	IX
Appendix IV	Formula	XI

LIST OF TABLES

	Page	
Table 1.2.1	Total number of reported and unreported renal biopsies by centres, 2005-2008	2
Table 1.2.2	Distribution of reported native and graft renal biopsies by centres, 2005-2008	4
Table 1.2.3 (a)	Distribution of native renal biopsy in patients by number of episodes	5
Table 1.2.3 (b)	Distribution of renal allograft biopsy in patients by number of episodes	5
Table 1.2.4.1 (a)	Age distribution of native renal biopsy, 2005-2008	6
Table 1.2.4.1 (b)	Age distribution of renal allograft biopsy, 2005-2008	6
Table 1.2.4.1 (c)	Age group distribution of reported renal biopsies by state, 2005-2008	7
Table 1.2.4.2 (a)	Gender distribution of native renal biopsy, 2005-2008	8
Table 1.2.4.2 (b)	Gender distribution of renal allograft biopsy, 2005-2008	8
Table 1.2.4.3 (a)	Racial distribution of native renal biopsy, 2005-2008	8
Table 1.2.4.3 (b)	Racial distribution of renal allograft biopsy, 2005-2008	8
Table 1.2.5	Number of glomeruli obtained at each biopsy by centres, 2005-2008	9
Table 1.2.6 (a)	Distribution of biopsy specimens to histopathology laboratories by participating centres, 2005-2008	10
Table 1.2.6 (b)	Histopathology laboratories receiving renal biopsy specimens, 2005-2008	12
Table 1.3.1 (a)	Indications for native renal biopsies, 2005-2008	13
Table 1.3.1 (b)	Renal function at time of biopsy	13
Table 1.3.2	Histopathology of all native renal biopsies, 2005-2008	14
Table 1.3.3.1	Histopathological diagnosis in patients presenting with nephrotic syndrome, 2005-2008	16
Table 1.3.3.2	Histopathological diagnosis in patients presenting with urine abnormalities, 2005-2008	17
Table 1.3.3.3	HPE diagnosis in patients presenting with nephritic-nephrotic syndrome, 2005-2008	18
Table 1.3.3.4	Histopathological diagnosis in patients presenting with nephritic syndrome, 2005-2008	19
Table 1.3.3.5	Primary GN according to the various age group, 2005-2008	20
Table 2.1	Primary Glomerulonephritis, 2005-2008	22
Table 2.2.2 (a)	Demographic characteristics for MCD, 2005-2008	23
Table 2.2.2 (b)	Age group at time of biopsy (years) for MCD, 2005-2008	23
Table 2.2.3 (a)	Clinical presentation for MCD, 2005-2008	24
Table 2.2.3 (b)	Presence of hypertension in MCD, 2005-2008	24
Table 2.2.3 (c)	Renal function in MCD by year, 2005-2008	24
Table 2.2.3.1	Clinical presentation by age group for MCD, 2005-2008	25
Table 2.2.3.2(a)	Clinical presentation by gender for MCD, 2005-2008	26
Table 2.2.3.2 (b)	Renal function by gender for MCD, 2005-2008	26
Table 2.2.4	Renal function at presentation by age group for MCD, 2005-2008	27
Table 2.3.2 (a)	Demographic characteristics for FSGS, 2005-2008	28
Table 2.3.2 (b)	Age group at time of biopsy (years) for FSGS, 2005-2008	28
Table 2.3.3 (a)	Clinical presentation for FSGS, 2005-2008	29
Table 2.3.3 (b)	Hypertension in FSGS, 2005-2008	29
Table 2.3.3.1 (a)	Clinical presentation by age group for FSGS, 2005-2008	30
Table 2.3.3.2 (a)	Clinical presentation by gender for FSGS, 2005-2008	31
Table 2.3.4	Impaired renal function in FSGS by year, 2005-2008	32
Table 2.3.4.1	Renal function at presentation by age group for FSGS, 2005-2008	32
Table 2.3.4.2	Renal function at presentation according to gender for FSGS, 2005-2008	33
Table 2.4.2	Demographic characteristics for IMN, 2005-2008	33

LIST OF TABLES *(con't)*

	Page
Table 2.4.3 (a)	34
Table 2.4.3 (b)	34
Table 2.4.3 (c)	34
Table 2.4.3.1 (a)	35
Table 2.4.3.1 (b)	35
Table 2.4.3.2 (b)	36
Table 2.4.4.1 (a)	36
Table 2.4.4.2	37
Table 2.5.2 (a)	37
Table 2.5.2 (b)	38
Table 2.5.3 (a)	38
Table 2.5.3 (b)	39
Table 2.5.3.1	39
Table 2.5.3.2	39
Table 2.5.4.1	40
Table 2.5.4.2	40
Table 3.1	42
Table 3.2.3	43
Table 3.2.3.1 (a)	44
Table 3.2.3.3 (a)	46
Table 3.2.4.1	47
Table 3.2.4.3	48
Table 3.2.5	48
Table 3.2.5.1	49
Table 3.2.5.2	49
Table 3.2.5.3	49
Table 3.2.6.1	50
Table 3.2.6.5 (a)	51
Table 3.2.6.5 (b)	51
Table 3.2.7.1	52
Table 3.2.7.2	52
Table 4.2.2	54
Table 4.2.3	54
Table 4.2.4	54
Table 4.3.1	55
Table 4.3.2	55
Table 4.4.1	55
Table 4.5.1	56
Table 4.5.2 (a)	56
Table 4.5.2 (b)	56
Table 4.5.3	56
Table 4.6	57
Table 4.7.1	58
Table 4.7.2	58

LIST OF TABLES *(con't)*

		Page
Table 4.8	Renal histopathology diagnosis of children presenting with nephritic syndrome	59
Table 4.9	Causes of acute renal failure in children who underwent renal biopsy	59
Table 4.10.1	Clinical characteristics of children with steroid resistant nephrotic syndrome	60
Table 4.10.2	Patient survival for focal segmental glomerulosclerosis and minimal change disease	61
Table 4.10.3	Renal survival of patient with focal segmental glomerulosclerosis and minimal change disease	62
Table 4.11.2	Distribution of renal biopsy in patient with lupus by number of episodes / attempts	63
Table 4.11.4(a)	Clinical presentation of paediatric lupus	63
Table 4.11.4(b)	ARA criteria at presentation	63
Table 4.11.5	Classification of paediatric lupus nephritis	64
Table 4.11.6	Patients survival in lupus nephritis	64
Table 4.11.7	Renal survival of patient with lupus nephritis	64
Table 4.12	Causes of end stage renal disease in children who underwent renal biopsy	65
Table 4.13.1	Risk factors for biopsy failure	65
Table 4.13.2	Frequency of complication	66
Table 4.13.3	Risk factors for complication	67
Table 5.2.1	Number of renal allograft biopsy, 2004-2008	70
Table 5.2.2	Number of renal allograft biopsy by centre, 2004-2008	71
Table 5.2.3	Renal allograft biopsy by year and age group, rate (per million population), 2004-2008	72
Table 5.3	Indications for renal allograft biopsy, 2004-2008	73
Table 5.4	Timing of renal allograft biopsy, 2004-2008	74
Table 5.5.1	Biopsy method, 2004-2008	75
Table 5.5.2	Number of passes, 2004-2008	75
Table 5.5.3	Number of glomeruli obtained on biopsy, 2004-2008	76
Table 5.5.4	Type of complications, 2004-2008	76
Table 5.6	Histological diagnosis, 2004-2008	77

LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
Figure 1.3.3.5	Primary GN according to the various age group, 2005-2008 20
Figure 2.2.2 (b)	Age at time of biopsy (years) for MCD, 2005-2008 23
Figure 2.2.3 (a)	Clinical presentation for MCD, 2005-2008 24
Figure 2.2.3.1 (b)	Hypertension by age group for MCD, 2005-2008 25
Figure 2.2.3.2 (b)	Impaired renal function by gender for MCD, 2005-2008 26
Figure 2.2.3.2 (c)	Hypertension by gender for MCD, 2005-2008 26
Figure 2.2.4	Renal function at presentation by age group for MCD, 2005-2008 27
Figure 2.3.2 (b)	Age at time of biopsy (years) for FSGS, 2005-2008 28
Figure 2.3.3 (a)	Clinical presentation for FSGS, 2005-2008 29
Figure 2.3.3.1 (a)	Clinical presentation by age group for FSGS,2005-2008 30
Figure 2.3.3.1 (b)	Hypertension by age group for FSGS, 2005-2008 30
Figure 2.3.3.2 (a)	Clinical presentation by gender FSGS, 2005-2008 31
Figure 2.3.3.2 (b)	Hypertension by gender for FSGS, 2005-2008 31
Figure 2.3.4.1	Impaired renal function at presentation by age group for FSGS, 2005-2008 32
Figure 2.3.4.2	Renal function at presentation according to gender for FSGS, 2005-2008 33
Figure 2.4.2	Age at time of biopsy (years) for IMN, 2005-2008 33
Figure 2.4.3 (a)	Clinical presentation for IMN, 2005-2008 34
Figure 2.4.3.1	Clinical presentation by age group for IMN 2005-2008 35
Figure 2.4.3.2 (a)	Clinical presentation by gender for IMN, 2005-2008 36
Figure 2.4.4.1 (a)	Renal function at presentation by age group for IMN, 2005-2008 36
Figure 2.4.4.1 (b)	Impaired renal function by age group for IMN, 2005-2008 36
Figure 2.5.2 (b)	Age at time of biopsy (years) for IgA nephropathy, 2005-2008 38
Figure 2.5.3 (a)	Clinical presentation for IgA nephropathy, 2005-2008 39
Figure 2.5.4.1	Renal function at presentation by age group for IgA nephropathy, 2005-2008 40
Figure 2.5.4.2	Renal function at presentation according to gender for IgA nephropathy, 2005-2008 40
Figure 3.2.2.1	Age group at time of biopsy (years), 2005-2008 42
Figure 3.2.2.2	Gender distribution in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008 43
Figure 3.2.2.3	Racial distribution in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008 43
Figure 3.2.3 (a)	Hypertension by year in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008 43
Figure 3.2.3 (b)	Impaired renal function by year in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008 43
Figure 3.2.3.1 (a)	Clinical presentation by age group in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008 44
Figure 3.2.3.1 (b)	Hypertension by age group in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008 44
Figure 3.2.3.1 (c)	Impaired renal function by age group in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008 44
Figure 3.2.3.2 (a)	Clinical presentation by gender in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008 45
Figure 3.2.3.2 (b)	Hypertension by gender in lupus nephritis 2005-2008 45
Figure 3.2.3.2 (c)	Impaired renal function by gender in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008 45
Figure 3.2.3.3 (a)	Clinical presentations by histopathology in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008 46
Figure 3.2.3.3 (b)	Hypertension by histopathology in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008 46
Figure 3.2.3.3 (c)	Impaired renal function by histopathology in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008 46
Figure 3.2.4.1	Renal function by age group in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008 47

LIST OF FIGURES *(con't)*

Figure 3.2.4.2	Renal function by gender in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008	47
Figure 3.2.6.2	ARA criteria in lupus nephritis by age group, 2005-2008	50
Figure 3.2.6.3	ARA criteria in lupus nephritis by gender, 2005-2008	50
Figure 3.2.6.4	ARA criteria in lupus nephritis by histopathology, 2005-2008	50
Figure 3.2.6.5 (a)	Extra-renal involvement by gender in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008	51
Figure 3.2.6.5 (b)	Mucocutaneous involvement by gender in lupus nephritis, 2005-2008	51
Figure 3.2.7.1	Patients survival in lupus nephritis, 2005-2007	52
Figure 3.2.7.2	Renal survival in lupus nephritis, 2005-2007	52
Figure 4.10.2	Patient survival by focal segmental glomerulosclerosis and minimal change disease	61
Figure 4.10.3	Renal survival by focal segmental glomerulosclerosis and minimal change	62
Figure 4.11.6	Patient survival in lupus nephritis	64
Figure 4.11.7	Renal survival of patient with lupus nephritis	64
Figure 5.2.1	Number of renal allograft biopsy, 2004-2008	70
Figure 5.2.3	Renal allograft biopsy by year and age group, rate per million population 2004-2008	72
Figure 5.4	Timing of renal allograft biopsy, 2004-2008	74
Figure 5.5.1	Biopsy method, 2004-2008	75
Figure 5.5.2	Number of passes, 2004-2008	75
Figure 5.5.3	Number of glomeruli obtained on biopsy, 2004-2008	76
Figure 5.5.6	Histological diagnosis, 2004-2008	77

REPORT SUMMARY

CHAPTER 1: OVERVIEW OF RENAL BIOPSY IN MALAYSIA

The second MRRB report included data from MOH centers as well as from universities and private hospitals. Universities and private hospitals contributed data to MRRB from 2008.

- Total of 33 centers contributed data in 2008. There were an additional 11 new centers.
- The first report was exclusively from 23 MOH centers only.
- Renal biopsies performed in MOH centers from 2005-2008 was also updated.
- 1519 renal biopsies were performed in 2008 and of these, 1155 were reported.
- The ascertainment rate was 92.2%, 91.05 %, 92.9% and 76.03% for the years 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 respectively.
- Average ascertainment rate for the years 2005 – 2008 was 86.5%.
- 89.4 % of renal biopsies in 2008 were reported in native biopsies.
- 83% of native biopsies were done in patients older than 15 years old and in this group 91.8% of the biopsies were done in patients less than 55 years of age.
- There were more females than males (ratio 3:2) due to the higher number of females amongst patients biopsied for lupus nephritis.
- 869 (23%) of the biopsies from 2005 to 2008 yielded less than 10 glomeruli.
- 38 (1%) of biopsies were classified as missing. The histopathological reports were not submitted to MRRB.
- 47.6% histopathology slides were read by pathologists in the same hospital and 52.4 % were sent to be read by pathologists in another hospital.
- Main indications for native kidney biopsies were nephrotic syndrome (46%) and urinary abnormalities (28%).
- 54 % had normal renal function and 32% had impaired renal function. Data was missing for 14%.

CHAPTER 2: PRIMARY GLOMERULONEPHRITIS

The commonest primary GN reported was Minimal Change Disease (MCD) followed by Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis (FSGS).

Minimal change disease

- Accounted for 33% of total primary GN
- Mean age at the time of biopsy was 29.1 ± 12.8 years.
- Male to female ratio was 2:1.
- Nephrotic syndrome was the most common clinical presentation.
- Twenty percent had e-GFR < 60 ml/min/1.73 m² at time of biopsy
- There was a higher risk of renal impairment with increasing age.

Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis (FSGS)

- Accounted for 30% of total primary GN.
- Mean age at the time of biopsy was 32.5 ± 13.5 years.
- Male to female ratio was 1.3:1.
- Nephrotic syndrome was the most common clinical presentation.
- Forty-one percent had e-GFR < 60 ml/min/1.73 m² at time of biopsy
- There was a higher risk of renal impairment with increasing age

REPORT SUMMARY *(con't)*

Idiopathic Membranous Nephropathy (IMN)

- Accounted for 11% of total primary GN.
- Mean age at the time of biopsy was 45.3 ± 14.7 years.
- Male to female ratio was 1.3:1.
- Nephrotic syndrome was the most common clinical presentation.
- Thirty-seven percent had e-GFR < 60 ml/min/1.73 m² at time of biopsy.
- There was a higher risk of renal impairment with increasing age

IgA nephropathy

- Accounted for 19% of total primary GN.
- Mean age at the time of biopsy was 33.8 ± 12.5 years.
- Male to female ratio was 0.9:1.
- Asymptomatic urine abnormalities was the most common clinical presentation, followed by nephritic syndrome.
- Forty-six percent had e-GFR < 60 ml/min/1.73 m² at time of biopsy.
- Males tend to have worse renal function at presentation compared to females.

CHAPTER 3: SECONDARY GLOMERULONEPHRITIS

The commonest secondary GN reported was lupus nephritis. Diabetic nephropathy was the second commonest glomerular disease reported.

Lupus nephritis

- Accounted for 86% of total secondary GN.
- Mean age at the time of biopsy in adult lupus nephritis was 30.3 ± 10.4 years.
- Male to female ratio was 6.9:1.
- Urine abnormality (38%) was the commonest clinical presentation followed by nephrotic syndrome (30%).
- The commonest histopathological finding was WHO or ISN/RPS class IV or IV+V (59%).
- There was no clear correlation between histopathological findings and clinical presentation. However, class IV or class IV+V were more likely to present with symptomatic renal disease.
- The prevalence of hypertension was higher in class IV or class IV +V
- The prevalence of impaired kidney function correlated with histopathological findings. Class IV was more likely to have impaired renal function.
- About 2/3 of cases with lupus nephritis fulfilled 4 or more American Rheumatological Association (ARA) criteria at presentation.
- Fulfilling the ARA criteria does not predict the severity of renal lesion.

REPORT SUMMARY *(con't)*

CHAPTER 4: PAEDIATRIC RENAL BIOPSY

This chapter reports on renal biopsy in children less than 15 years of age and the summary details the report for the years 1999 -2008.

- 809 renal biopsies were performed in 755 children.
- Majority of biopsies were performed in MOH hospitals.
- 770 (95.2%) were assessed to be adequate. The success rate is comparable to reports from Thailand, UK and Japan.
- 621(77.2%) yielded more than 10 glomeruli.
- 51.9% were performed in girls.
- Nephrotic syndrome (52.9%) was the most frequent clinical presentation.41.8% of the diagnosis on biopsy was FSGS and minimal change disease in 28.7%.
- The commonest biopsy finding for nephritic syndrome was post-infectious glomerulonephritis (36.3%).
- Overall, in terms of diagnosis on biopsies for the paediatric age group, lupus nephritis was the commonest finding in 24.8%, followed closely by FSGS (24.6%) and MCD accounted for 17.27%.
- There were no difference in terms of age at presentation, race, gender, urine albumin excretion and creatinine clearance in children with FSGS and minimal change disease at biopsy.
- There was no difference in patient survival for FSGS and minimal change disease.
- There was however definite poorer renal survival, 92.4 % and 84.6% at 3 and 5 years for the FSGS group. Renal survival for the MCD group was at 95.9% at both 3 and 5 years.
- Commonest biopsy finding for the lupus group was class IV and Class V + IV (64.2%)
- Renal survival for the lupus group was 97.1 % at both 3 and 5 years.
- The complication rate for renal biopsy was 5.4%. The most common complication was bleeding which occurred in 4.1 %.

CHAPTER 5: RENAL ALLOGRAFT BIOPSY

This chapter reports on renal allograft biopsy and the summary details the report for the years 2004 - 2008.

- The number of renal allograft biopsies doubled over the last 5 years despite a decreased in the number of new transplant recipients.
- This was largely contributed by an increase in participating centres reporting to MRRB.
- 90% of renal allograft biopsies were performed in 5 centers in Klang valley.
- The biopsies were usually performed in the age group 15 to 54 years.
- Acute and chronic allograft dysfunction was the commonest indications.
- Chronic allograft dysfunction has assumed more importance in recent years. This was supported by a 5 fold increase in renal biopsies performed for this reason. (10 % in 2004 to 47% in 2008)
- In addition, there was a marked increase in the number of renal allograft biopsies performed after one year post transplant. (35% in 2004 and 55% in 2008)
- 96% of biopsies were performed under real time ultrasound guidance.
- 97% of biopsies were not associated with any complications.
- The histological diagnosis on biopsy in order of importance was acute rejection (49%), acute tubular necrosis (16%) calcineurin inhibitor toxicity (15%) and chronic allograft nephropathy. (15%)